

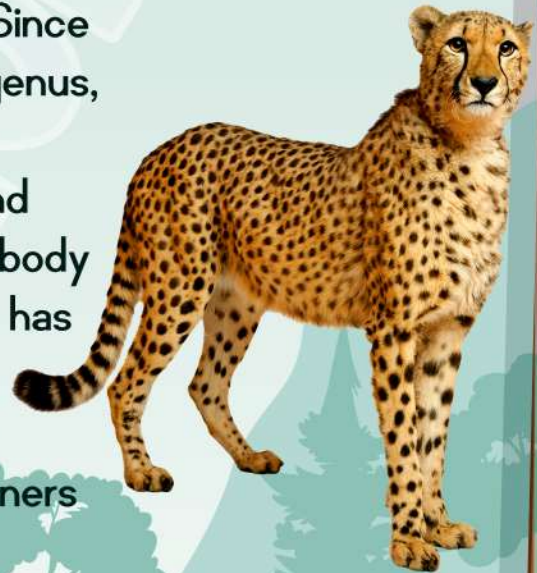


DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CHEETAH, LEOPARD AND JAGUAR

Cheetah, leopard, and jaguar are three types of large cats that belong to the family Felidae. The genus of the cheetah is *Acinonyx* while the genus of leopard and jaguar is *Panthera*. All three are carnivorous animals.

CHEETAH

A cheetah is a large cat native to Africa. Since cheetahs do not belong to the *Panthera* genus, they do not have retractable claws. More importantly, the cheetah is the fastest land animal. Small black spots cover its entire body in a background of pale yellow and it also has a white underbelly. In addition, there are prominent black lines that curve from the inner corner of each eye to the outer corners of the mouth.



Scientific Name : *Acinonyx jubatus*

Maximum Running Speed : 80-130 km/h

Height : 67-94 cm

Weight : 21-72 kg

Fur Color : Upper coat of fur that is tawny, pale buff or grayish hite with underparts that are paler and whiter

Lifespan : 10-12 years

LEOPARD

Leopard is a large solitary cat with a fawn or brown coat with black spots, native to the forests of Africa and southern Asia. It is also one of the five extant species in the genus *Panthera*. Moreover, when we look at their physical appearances, leopards have relatively short legs and long body with large skull. Similar in appearance to the jaguar, the fur of the leopard has marks of rosettes. But the rosettes are smaller, more densely packed, and without central spots. Some leopards are melanistic and are known as black panthers

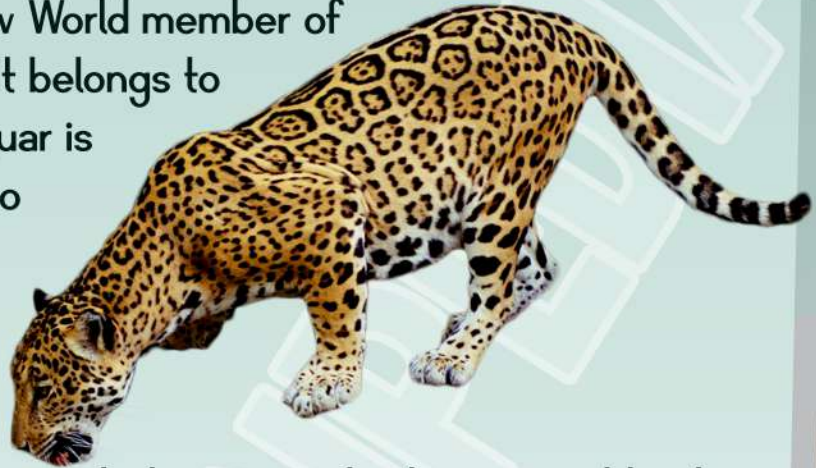


Scientific Name : *Panthera Pardus*
Maximum Running Speed : 58 km/h
Height : 60–70 cm
Weight : 31 kg
Fur Color : Coat is cream–yellow on the belly and it darkens slightly to an orange brown on the back
Lifespan : 12–17 years



JAGUAR

Jaguar is the largest New World member of the cat family (Felidae). It belongs to the genus Panthera. Jaguar is native to northern Mexico southward to northern Argentina. The most preferred habitats of jaguars usually include swamps and wooded regions, but jaguars also live in scrublands and deserts. Typically, the coloration of the jaguar is orange to tan, with black spots arranged in rosettes with a black spot in the center.



Scientific Name : Panthera Onca

Maximum Running Speed : 80 km/h

Height : 63-76 cm

Weight : 56-96 kg

Fur Color : Tawny colored fur with black rosettes, but some have black-on-black, or melanistic, coloration

Lifespan : 12-15 years



CONCLUSION

In brief, the cheetah, leopard, and jaguar are three types of spotted big cats of the family Felidae. The cheetah is the fastest, the leopard is the most widespread, and the jaguar is the largest among them. Therefore, the main difference between cheetah leopard and jaguar is their characteristics.